PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

| Application Number | | 10709631 | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Filing Date | | 2004-05-18 | | |
| First Named Inventor Ta | | Takagi Senichi | | |
| Art Unit | | 3673 | | |
| Examiner Name Micha | | chael Safavi | | |
| Attorney Docket Numb | er | SHG-029P2 | | |
| | Filing Date First Named Inventor Art Unit Examiner Name | Filing Date First Named Inventor Takag Art Unit | | |

| | | | | | U.S.I | PATENTS | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---------------|---|---|--|---|----|
| Examiner Initial* | Cite No | Patent Number | Kind Code ¹ | LICCUA LICATA | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | | Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relev Figures Appear | | |
| | 1 | | | | ec. | | | | | |
| If you wis | h to a | dd additional U.S. Pater | nt citatio | n inform | ation pl | ease click the | Add button. | l | | |
| | | | U.S.P | ATENT | APPLIC | CATION PUBI | LICATIONS | | | |
| Examiner Initial* | Cite No | Publication Number | Kind Code ¹ | Kind Publication Code ¹ Date | | Name of Pate of cited Docu | entee or Applicant ment | Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Releva Figures Appear | | |
| | 1 | | | * | | | | | | |
| If you wis | h to a | dd additional U.S. Publi | shed Ap | plication | citation | n information p | lease click the Ade | d butto | on. | |
| | | | | FOREK | SN PAT | ENT DOCUM | ENTS | | | |
| Examiner Initial* | Cite No | Foreign Document Number ³ | Country Code ² j | | Kind Code4 | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | | Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | TS |
| W | 1 | 07-279411 | JP | | | 1995-10-27 | Kobe Steel Ltd. | | | X |
| 20 | 2 | 08-333891 | JP | | | 1996-12-17 | Taisei Corporation | | | × |
| 21 | 3 | 09-151602 | JP | | | 1997-06-10 | Muramoto Kensets | u KK | | × |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

| | | · | | | |
|------------------------|-------|------------|--|--|--|
| Application Number | | 10709631 | | | |
| Filing Date | | 2004-05-18 | | | |
| First Named Inventor | Taka | gi Senichi | | | |
| Art Unit | | 3673 | | | |
| Examiner Name | Micha | ael Safavi | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | | SHG-029P2 | | | |

| 21 | 4 | 11-182029 | JP | | 1999-06-07 | Taisei Corporation | | X |
|---|--|-------------------------|----------------|----------|----------------|---------------------------|------|---|
| 21 | 5 | 2000-008607 | JP | | 2000-01-11 | Daiwa Sogyo: KK | | X |
| M | 6 | 2000-017776 | JP | | 2000-01-18 | Fujipura Seiko Co. Ltd. | | X |
| 21 | 7 | 3026839 | JP | | 1996-07-23 | Fukvi Chem. Ind. Co. | | X |
| m | 8 | 2636576 | JP | B2 | 1997-07-30 | Inax Corporation | | X |
| If you wis | h to a | dd additional Foreign P | atent Document | citation | information pl | ease click the Add buttor | 1 | |
| | | | NON-PATE | NT LITE | RATURE DO | CUMENTS | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Examiner Initials* Cite No Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | | | | | |
| | Japanese Patent Application Office Action received in connection with Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-360062 in connection with corresponding US Patent Application No. 10/709,631 dated January 9, 2007, 5 pages. | | | | | | | |
| If you wish to add additional non-patent literature document citation information please click the Add button | | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER SIGNATURE | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Signature SAFAVI | | | | | | Date Considered | 4/07 | |
| *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | | |
| ¹ See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. ² Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. | | | | | | | | |